

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please replace claim 1 with the following amended claim.

1 (Twice Amended). An assay method for the determination of transcobalamin II cobalamin (holo-TCII) in a body sample, comprising contacting a cell free sample of a body fluid with an immobilized cobalamin or an analogue or fragment thereof which selectively binds the apo-forms of TC II and haptocorrin, and subsequently contacting said sample with an immobilised or immobilizable specific binding ligand for TC II or holo-TC II, separating a ligand bound fraction from a non-ligand bound fraction and measuring the (TC II or cobalamin) content of said ligand bound fraction.

Not related back to preamble.

New matter

only binding holo-TC

112, 1st and 112, 2nd new matter.